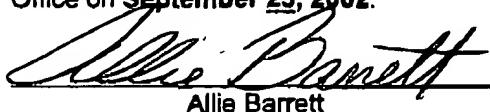


CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 25, 2002.



Allie Barrett

PATENT

Applicant: Van Tassel et al.
Serial No.: 09/382,275
Filed: 08/25/1999
Title: **IMPLANTABLE DEVICE FOR PROMOTING REPAIR OF A BODY LUMEN**
Examiner: Hieu Phan
Group Art Unit: 3738
Atty Docket No.: 20220-311

#15/B
09/29/02
Jewor

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

SEP 25 2002

Group 3700

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated April, 24, 2002 in the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 43 and 58 to read as follows:

B1
1. (Once Amended) An implantable stent comprising a tubular stent body having a plurality of interconnected microholes distributed throughout said stent body along substantially the length of said stent body, said plurality of microholes being sufficiently small so as to promote an organized growth pattern of infiltrating cells throughout said stent body.

B2
43. (Once Amended) An active stent comprising a stent according to claim 1 and further comprising live cells growing in said interconnected microholes.

B3
58. (Once Amended) A method for treating a tubular body organ in a subject in need thereof said method comprising:

promoting the ingrowth of living cells in a stent having a plurality of interconnected microholes distributed within said stent body along substantially the length of said stent body, said plurality of microholes being sufficiently small in size so as to promote ingrowth of the cells, and,